

N E W S R E L E A S E

Contact: Loree Levy
Kevin Callori
(916) 654-9029

Date: May 22, 2009

News Release No.: 09-30

Note: Due to decreased demand for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit assistance on Saturdays, EDD's UI telephone lines are now open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Check the EDD Web site (www.edd.ca.gov) for a list of the reduced number of EDD Workforce Services offices open Saturdays with computers and phones available to apply for UI benefits.

California's Unemployment Rate Decreases To 11.0 Percent

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate was 11.0 percent in April, and nonfarm payroll jobs declined by 63,700 during the month, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate increased in April, rising to 8.9 percent.

In March, the state's unemployment rate was 11.2 percent, and in April 2008, the unemployment rate was 6.6 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,411,400 in April, a decrease of 63,700 over the month, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 42,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over-year change (April 2008 to April 2009) shows a decrease of 706,700 jobs (down 4.7 percent).

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal survey of households, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows a decrease in the number of employed people. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in April was 16,565,000, an increase of 42,000 from March, but down 544,000 from the employment total in April of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,057,000 – down by 35,000 over the month, but up by 843,000 compared with April of last year.

(more)

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED²)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,411,400 in April, a net loss of 63,700 jobs since the March survey. This followed a loss of 61,700 jobs (as revised) in March.

Three categories (**natural resources and mining; other services; and government**) added jobs over the month, gaining 9,700 jobs. Eight categories (**construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality**) reported job declines this month, down 73,400 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities posted the largest decline over the month, down by 18,900 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (April 2008 to April 2009), nonfarm payroll employment in California decreased by 706,700 jobs (down 4.7 percent).

One industry division, **educational and health services**, posted job gains over the year, adding 19,900 jobs (a 1.2 percent increase).

Ten categories (**natural resources and mining; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government**) posted job declines over the year, down 726,600 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities employment showed the largest decline on a numerical basis, down by 189,000 jobs (a decline of 6.5 percent). Construction posted the largest decline on a percentage basis, down by 18.4 percent (a decrease of 149,900 jobs).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 853,607 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the April survey week. This compares with 858,778 last month and 492,000 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 72,718 in April 2009, compared with 79,979 in March and 52,316 in April of last year.

NOTE TO EDITORS: *EDD encourages those who are filing for unemployment insurance benefits to do so on-line through our Web site at www.edd.ca.gov. On-line claim filing is the fastest, most convenient way to apply for unemployment benefits, and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	April 2009 (prelim.)	March 2009 (revised)	April 2008	Change Over 12 months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,411.4	14,475.1	15,118.1	-4.7
Natural resources and mining	28.1	27.9	28.7	-2.1
Construction	665.0	674.8	814.9	-18.4
Manufacturing	1,324.1	1,338.2	1,439.2	-8.0
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,701.0	2,719.9	2,890.0	-6.5
Information	454.1	461.9	476.2	-4.6
Financial activities	808.9	813.7	859.2	-5.9
Professional and business services	2,141.7	2,151.7	2,263.4	-5.4
Educational and health services	1,745.0	1,750.0	1,725.1	1.2
Leisure and hospitality	1,519.0	1,522.0	1,581.5	-4.0
Other services	503.8	503.6	518.6	-2.9
Government*	2,520.7	2,511.4	2,521.3	0.0
Agriculture	384.5	393.8	374.9	2.6

*Includes all civilian employees of federal, state, and local governments.

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	April 2009 (prelim.)	March 2009 (revised)	February 2009	April 2008
Civilian labor force ^a	18,622,000	18,615,000	18,581,000	18,323,000
Total civilian employment	16,565,000	16,523,000	16,620,000	17,109,000
Unemployment	2,057,000	2,092,000	1,961,000	1,214,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	11.0	11.2	10.6	6.6
US seasonally adjusted rate % .	8.9	8.5	8.1	5.0

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	April 2009 (prelim.)	March 2009 (revised)	February 2009	April 2008
Civilian labor force ^a	18,536,000	18,590,000	18,557,000	18,226,000
Total civilian employment	16,506,000	16,449,000	16,520,000	17,125,000
Unemployment	2,030,000	2,142,000	2,037,000	1,101,000
Unadjusted rate %	10.9	11.5	11.0	6.0

^a Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

² Seasonal adjustment is a statistical method that removes typical employment patterns that occur at various times throughout the year (e.g., additional retail hiring during the holiday season).

MONTHLY LABOR FORCE DATA FOR COUNTIES
APRIL 2009 (Preliminary); 2008 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE
STATE TOTAL	18,535,500	16,506,000	2,029,500	10.9%
ALAMEDA	776,400	696,200	80,100	10.3%
ALPINE	490	430	60	12.7%
AMADOR	18,160	16,040	2,130	11.7%
BUTTE	106,700	93,400	13,300	12.4%
CALAVERAS	21,280	18,410	2,880	13.5%
COLUSA	11,190	9,050	2,130	19.1%
CONTRA COSTA	532,200	480,600	51,600	9.7%
DEL NORTE	11,970	10,570	1,410	11.8%
EL DORADO	93,200	82,800	10,400	11.1%
FRESNO	450,600	380,700	69,800	15.5%
GLENN	12,820	10,760	2,060	16.1%
HUMBOLDT	61,400	54,300	7,100	11.6%
IMPERIAL	74,500	54,500	20,000	26.9%
INYO	9,100	8,250	850	9.4%
KERN	371,900	316,900	54,900	14.8%
KINGS	61,200	51,800	9,400	15.3%
LAKE	25,210	21,160	4,040	16.0%
LASSEN	13,370	11,580	1,800	13.4%
LOS ANGELES	4,978,100	4,443,700	534,400	10.7%
MADERA	67,700	57,800	9,900	14.6%
MARIN	136,600	126,700	9,900	7.2%
MARIPOSA	9,180	8,140	1,040	11.3%
MENDOCINO	43,770	39,080	4,700	10.7%
MERCED	106,500	87,000	19,500	18.3%
MODOC	3,990	3,450	550	13.7%
MONO	8,520	7,840	680	7.9%
MONTEREY	218,300	192,700	25,600	11.7%
NAPA	75,300	68,900	6,400	8.5%
NEVADA	50,250	44,820	5,420	10.8%
ORANGE	1,635,900	1,500,000	135,900	8.3%
PLACER	177,400	158,600	18,800	10.6%
PLUMAS	10,150	8,330	1,820	17.9%
RIVERSIDE	923,000	805,100	117,900	12.8%
SACRAMENTO	692,100	617,200	74,900	10.8%
SAN BENITO	25,900	22,000	3,900	14.9%
SAN BERNARDINO	882,200	773,000	109,200	12.4%
SAN DIEGO	1,576,300	1,433,100	143,200	9.1%
SAN FRANCISCO	452,800	412,900	39,800	8.8%
SAN JOAQUIN	307,000	259,100	47,900	15.6%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	139,800	128,100	11,700	8.4%
SAN MATEO	385,600	354,300	31,300	8.1%
SANTA BARBARA	227,500	210,100	17,400	7.6%
SANTA CLARA	891,700	795,200	96,500	10.8%
SANTA CRUZ	149,900	131,800	18,100	12.0%
SHASTA	84,700	71,700	13,100	15.4%
SIERRA	1,690	1,390	300	17.9%
SISKIYOU	19,540	16,470	3,060	15.7%
SOLANO	215,700	192,900	22,700	10.5%
SONOMA	265,000	240,200	24,800	9.4%
STANISLAUS	241,300	200,800	40,600	16.8%
SUTTER	43,300	35,300	8,000	18.5%
TEHAMA	26,690	22,920	3,760	14.1%
TRINITY	4,910	3,970	940	19.1%
TULARE	212,600	179,900	32,600	15.4%
TUOLUMNE	26,620	23,370	3,250	12.2%
VENTURA	438,400	398,100	40,400	9.2%
YOLO	99,400	88,800	10,600	10.7%
YUBA	28,800	23,700	5,200	17.9%